14th August 1956]

economic materials. I did refer at a Conference held in Delhi to the remarks reported to have been made by Mr. Kruschev when he visited the Integral Coach Factory, Perambur. At that Conference, it was decided that they must open a research section where they could examine the question of substitution of not only iron and steel but also cement by other economic materials in the construction of houses.

Sri T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR : Sir, in view of the fact that the Kanni harvest will take place in September in Malabar and there is shortage of steel experienced by the village blacksmiths for making the sickles (Kanni *kathis*), will the Hon. Minister see that steel is distributed to village blacksmiths at cheaper prices so that our womenfolk in the villages may get the Kanni *kathis* for the September harvest?

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Sir, I would suggest to the hon. Member to kindly give me a short note about it. I shall then look into it.

Sri V. K. RAMASWAMI MUDALIAR : Sir, is it a fact that the Madras Government have purchased imported steel at a very high price while they could have got the same at subsidized rates through the Government of India, had they only waited for some more time?

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Sir, I would like to have notice. I do not have any such information with me.

Appointment of Secretary of the Nileshwar Coconut Co-operative Marketing Society

* 99 Q.—Sri M. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) when the Secretary to the Nileshwar Coconut C-operative Marketing Society in South Kanara district was appointed;

(*b*) whether applications for the post were invited;

(*c*) how many applications were received ; and

(*d*) whether any qualification was prescribed for the post?

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY : (*a*) On 5th January 1956.

(*b*) No, Sir.

(*c*) Does not arise.

(*d*) The prescribed qualification for this kind of societies is S.S.L.C. (eligible for college course) with Co-operative training. But the candidate now appointed as Secretary was exempted from the above qualifications subject to the condition that he undergoes Co-operative training within a period of two years from the date of his appointment, at his own cost.

[14th August 1956

Sri M. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR : Sir, is it not a fact that the candidate now appointed is not eligible for collegiate course and if so, may I know why he has been appointed?

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY : The society adopted certain transitory provisions and under these they have exempted this candidate. I may tell the hon. Member that this candidate has got experience as Accounts and General Manager of the Nileshwar Co-operative Society for a total period of eight years.

Supply of drinking water from Mettur

* 100 Q.—Sri M. KALYANASUNDARAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have any scheme to supply drinking water from Mettur to the villages lying close to the pipe line from Mettur to Salem; and

(b) if so, the names of the villages which are likely to be benefited by such a scheme?

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following villages will be benefited by the scheme :—

1 Nangavalli.
2 Vanavasi.
3 Jalakantapuram.
4 Periasoragai.
5 Pillaikarraichiur.
6 Taramangalam.
7 Pavalathanur.
8 Suramangalam.

Sri M. KALYANASUNDARAM : Sir, in 1953 I think—the order which I have got in my hand is dated 26th October 1953—about eight villages were selected. Of these, regarding six villages the investigation has been completed and the work has also commenced in some of the villages. But in the village of Jalakantapuram the investigation itself has not commenced. May I know the reason why there is so much delay and may I know whether this village will be included as early as possible?

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY : Yes, Sir. The people of this village have recently made a representation. The matter will be taken due notice of and every attention given to it.

Bifurcation of districts

* 100-A Q.—Sri K. MADHAVAN NAMBIAR (on behalf of Sri V. R. Krishna Ayyar) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to bifurcate districts for Veterinary purposes; and